

being fastened in contact with the pressure sensitive adhesive for adherence thereto.

2. Applicant cancels claim 2.

3. (Amended) A carpet mat assembly as in claim [2,] 1, wherein the mat is substantially 1-1/8 inch thick.
4. (Amended) A carpet mat assembly as in claim [2,] 1, wherein the mat has impact attenuation in compliance with ASTM F-1292-96.
5. (Amended) A carpet mat assembly as in claim [2,] 1, wherein the mat is greater than [at least] 1/2 inch thick.
6. (Amended) A carpet mat assembly as in claim [2,] 1, wherein the assembly is made of like portable sections secured contiguously together.
11. (Amended) A carpet mat assembly as in claim 8, wherein [3M Velcro®] a hook and loop fastener is affixed to at least one perimeter edge of each individual assembly for detachably attaching multiple sections of the carpet mat assembly into a unit.

REMARKS

Applicant submits the foregoing amendment in response to the Office Action mailed December 14, 1998. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.111, applicant requests reconsideration of each and every ground of rejection set forth in the pending Office Action in light of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The examiner has stated that the preamble text "for preventing injury" is directed to an intended use of the claimed product and is not a positive limitation. Applicant has elected to delete this text as unnecessary, although it is recognized that the presence of the text was not objected to by the examiner.

The examiner has stated that claim 2 was directed to a step before the product as claimed in claim 1, and was therefore not considered a positive limitation. Applicant states that the "removable liner" is a claimed element, not intended to be a step as was presented in claim 2. To address the objection of the examiner, claim 2 has been deleted, and the element limitation relocated into claim 1.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-2 and 4-5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wentworth, 3,615,138 who has taught the use of an extruded "predominantly closed cell structure," which "can be up to 0.5 inch thick." Wentworth